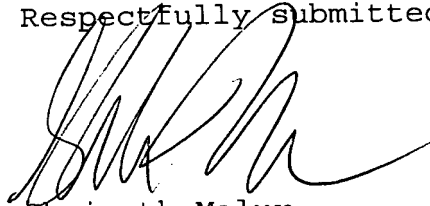


REMARKS

Claims 1-12 have been canceled. Claims 13-31 are currently pending in the application.

Examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shrinath Malur', is written over the typed name.

Shrinath Malur
Registration No. 34,663
Attorney of Record

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Date: September 17, 2003